

What is claimed is:

1. A method for manufacturing and assembling hot runner systems, the method

comprising the steps of:

manufacturing a plurality of manifold plates, injection nozzles, and plugs;

adding heating elements to the manifold plates;

drilling flow channels into the manifold plates;

placing the manifold plates, the injection nozzles, and the plugs in stock;

taking orders with specifications for hot runner systems;

removing from stock the manifold plates, the injection nozzles, and the plugs that correspond to the specifications of the orders;

boring out holes for the plugs in the manifold plates at locations that correspond to the specifications of the orders;

inserting the plugs into the bored out holes of the manifold plates; and

attaching the nozzles to the manifold plates in alignment with the plugs.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the specifications comprise at least one of nozzle types, nozzle pitches, manifold shapes, manifold lengths, and manifold thickness.

3. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of milling grooves in the manifold plates and inserting the heating elements into the grooves.

4. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of grinding the manifold plates to dimensions that correspond to the specifications of the orders.

5. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of drilling holes in the manifold plates around the bored out holes for attaching the nozzles to the manifold plates.

6. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of boring out slots for alignment pins in the manifold plates next to the bored out holes.

7. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of aligning plug channels of the plugs with the flow channels of the manifold plates.

8. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of aligning plug channels of the plugs with the flow channels of the manifold plates and melt channels of the nozzles.

9. A method for manufacturing and assembling hot runner systems, the method comprising the steps of:

manufacturing a plurality of manifold plates, injection nozzles, and plugs;

milling grooves in the manifold plates;

drilling flow channels into the manifold plates;

inserting heating elements into the grooves;

placing the manifold plates, the injection nozzles, and the plugs in stock;

taking orders with specifications for hot runner systems;

removing from stock the manifold plates, the injection nozzles, and the plugs that

5 correspond to the specifications of the orders;

boring out holes for the plugs in the manifold plates at locations that correspond
to the specifications of the orders;

drilling holes in the manifold plates around the bored out holes for attaching the
nozzles to the manifold plates;

10 inserting the plugs into the bored out holes of the manifold plates; and

attaching the nozzles to the manifold plates in alignment with the plugs.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein the specifications comprise at least one of nozzle
types, nozzle pitches, manifold shapes, manifold lengths, and manifold thickness.

11. The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of grinding the manifold plates
to dimensions that correspond to the specifications of the orders.

12. The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of boring out slots for
20 alignment pins in the manifold plates next to the bored out holes.

13. The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of aligning plug channels of the plugs with the flow channels of the manifold plates.

14. The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of aligning plug channels of
5 the plugs with the flow channels of the manifold plates and melt channels of the nozzles.

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